

came vacant by the death of Mr. Tyler. The Executive appointed Philemon Chew, esquire, to fill the vacancy.

Not required by the constitution or any statute, to submit views of state policy or state concerns to the consideration of the General Assembly, we might forbear to intrude further on your time than has already been done in the rendition of the account given; but the examples of those who have preceeded us, have established a custom, from which it would be uncourteous, and might appear arrogant in us to depart: and preferring to pursue the established course, rather than to adopt a system inconsistent with custom, or with public expectation; we submit to the two houses of the legislature such views upon subjects connected with the interest of the state, as appear to us calculated to promote it.

Nothing has more engrossed the public attention than the improvement of our internal resources, and the facilities of intercourse, as regards commerce among ourselves, and the introduction, within our borders, of the abundant and growing products of neighbouring territories, which are there to seek a market and exportation. The tendency of this system to increase capital, to excite to industry and to enterprise, to extend trade, to augment population and to promote consumption, are the obvious inducements to look to it with anxious expectation. That a diversity of opinion should have existed at first upon this subject, might reasonably have been expected. The citizens in the interior, inhabiting that portion of the state, the surface of which is superabundantly spread over with rock, hill and mountain, that oppose the greatest obstacles to intercourse, would naturally approve of a system that would remove such obstructions; whilst those who live on a smother surface, delightfully intersected by innumerable navigable waters, where almost every farm has a landing within its own precincts, from which to transport its productions by water to a market, would as naturally, at first, want faith in the utility of such costly artificial conveniences. But when further reflection brought to the view of all, that rail roads and canals were calculated, not only to identify the interests of this extensive country, and strengthen the union of the states, but to be the means of drawing to our great emporium, situated in the very midst of the state, the redundant productions of the fertile west, and that the necessary result of this would be the augmentation of the wealth and prosperity of the whole state, first impressions have gradually yielded to more salutary convictions; and the Executive feel themselves authorized to believe that the sentiment in favor of internal improvement is growing among the people. The